



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Police arrest suspect in non-fatal stabbing in Columbia

Howard County police arrested a suspect last night hours after a non-fatal stabbing in Columbia. Vernon Leroy Costley, 19, of no fixed address, was charged with attempted second-degree murder, first- and second-degree assault and reckless endangerment.

Police responded to the 5700 block of Columbia Road around 9:30 p.m. for a report of a man knocking on doors asking for help. The victim, 24-year-old William Iberg of Elkridge, was located by police and transported to Shock Trauma for a stab wound to his torso.

Iberg told police he was jogging on Columbia Road when he passed a group of approximately 10 male teens. He reported that one of the teens ran up to him and struck him. Iberg said he realized he was bleeding and went to nearby homes to ask for help. He told police there was not an altercation before the attack.

Police immediately deployed officers into the area. Investigators quickly gathered information that Costley was likely the suspect involved. They located him at a relative's home in the 5200 block of Brook Way. The resident consented to a search of the home and police recovered a knife believed to have been used in the stabbing. After conducting interviews and gathering additional information, detectives arrested Costley without incident around 11:40 p.m.

Costley is being held at the Howard County Detention Center on \$300,000 bond. Iberg was released from Shock Trauma this morning.

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